

ISLAMIC FAMILY LAW

DEMYSTIFYING SHARIAH IN THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

VOLUME III

ZALEHA KAMARUDDIN

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Editor
Zaleha Kamaruddin



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*Mutiah Hud and Prof. Dr. Mohd Akram Shair
Mohamed*

INCEST: A THREAT TO CHILDREN AND SELECTED SOLUTIONS

Khairul Nizam Che Yassin and Assistant Prof. Dr. Badruddin Ibrahim

Introduction

The family institution has been long threatened by divorces¹ of marital couples with significant impact on the children of the family. Since children are the leader of the future, they therefore need protection, love and care. Divorces do not help in shaping the leaders of the future. Divorces, are however better than child abuse² and incest.³

The occurrence of incest in Malaysia is alarming and the statistics from the Royal Malaysian Police Force shows that incest cases are high and they institute almost 20% of the total rape cases in peninsular Malaysia.⁴ *“Fathers no longer have the shame to rape their own daughters; stepfathers are no longer having respects for their stepdaughters, and so are uncles; they no longer protect the honor and dignity of their nieces.”*⁵

Background

Incest is one of the oldest crimes in the world and the number of the cases involving incest cannot be properly estimates in a given society, because the act is done in secrecy and in circumstances that